



J. Paul

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q77369

USUI, Minoru, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/662,397

Group Art Unit: 2856

Confirmation No.: 1476

Examiner: Andre JACKSON

Filed: September 16, 2003

For: LIQUID CONSUMPTION STATUS DETECTING METHOD, LIQUID CONTAINER,
AND INK CARTRIDGE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is attached.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/662,397

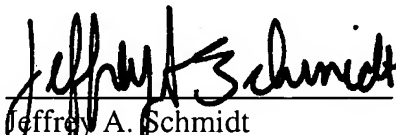
Atty Dkt No. Q77369

Either complete English translations, or English translations of abstracts, of the foreign language documents are being submitted herewith, and these comprise a concise explanation for such foreign language documents.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: February 23, 2005

Substitute for Form 1449 A' & B/PTO'

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/662,397
Confirmation Number	1476
Filing Date	September 16, 2003
First Named Inventor	USUI, Minoru
Art Unit	2856
Examiner Name	Andre JACKSON
Attorney Docket Number	Q77369

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 5,524,486	A	6/11/1996	Hermann
		US 5,319,973	A	6/14/1994	Crayton et al.
		US 5,247,832	A	9/28/1993	Umezawa et al.
		US 5,264,831	A	11/23/1993	Pfeiffer
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		EP	881 079	A2	12/2/1998		
		EP	1 055 520	A1	11/29/2000		
		JP	9-29989	A	4/2/1997		Yes
		JP	5-254142	A	10/5/1993		Yes
		JP	10-323993	A	12/8/1998		Abstract
		JP	10-175312	A	6/30/1998		Abstract
		JP	3-169642	A	7/23/1991		Abstract
		JP	3-067657	A	3/22/1991		Abstract
		JP	9-286121	A	11/4/1997		Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.